

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Charles D. Baker Governor

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PUBLIC NOTICE

DRAFT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED REPLACEMENT AND REVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY GENERAL PERMITS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

The New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751, proposes to replace the state-wide General Permits for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (MA GPs), pursuant to 33 CFR Part 325.5(c)(l), with a revised MA GPs. The revised MAGPs will continue to authorize activities subject to the Corps jurisdiction in waters of the U.S. within the boundaries of, and off the coast of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, excluding work within the boundaries of Indian tribal lands. The revised GPs will continue the expedited review process for activities in the Corps jurisdiction pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. This public notice is being issued in accordance with 33 CFR 325.3(b) to coordinate reissuance of the GPs with Federal and State agencies and the public.

The GPs are proposed to be issued for five years with a start date in 2017 and an expiration date five years later in 2022. The Corps proposed Massachusetts General Permit is available at: http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicNotices.aspx.

Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC)

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires any applicant for a Federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the U.S. to obtain a certification from the state in which the discharge originates that the discharge will comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The Corps is therefore requesting that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) determine whether to issue, condition, deny or waive Section 401 WQC for these GPs. The

MassDEP DRAFT 401 Water Quality Certification for the Department of the Army General Permit for Massachusetts is posted at: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/news/events/.

Please send comments regarding this DRAFT 401 WQC by **OCTOBER 31, 2017** to: Mr. Lealdon Langley, MassDEP, Bureau of Resource Protection, Wetlands Regulation Program, One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108; or lealdon.langley@state.ma.us.